(d) At Benalee location (East Satgram Colliery), nearly 330 nos. of illegal pits have been filled in/dozed off by dozer/pay loader to extinguish smoke/flame and to prevent further entry of fresh air.

At the J.K. Nagar fire project (near Nimcha) fire/smoke was immediately brought under control by dozing/filling of the subsidence crack/pot holes and compaction of the dozed off area also had been done.

The Central Institute of Mining and Fuel Research (C1M&FR), Dhanbad has been engaged to detect the extension of fire towards Nimcha Village and measures to be taken for protecting the village.

Seven families have been shifted to a safer zone on safety ground and ECL has provided quarters to them.

IT industries

205. SHRI S. ANBALAGAN: Will the Minister of **COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY** be pleased to state:

(a) whether Information and Technology industry of the country is poised for recession in the coming year;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;

(c) the value of export of software by IT industry for the last three years, year-wise, and the projected growth for the next three years;

(d) whether the country will lose its leadership in IT industry to China and other competing countries due to lack of development planning by Government at present; and

(e) if so, the urgent steps proposed to be taken by Government in this regard and the results proposed to be achieved in near future?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR. SHAKEELAHMAD): (a) No, Sir. As per N ASSCOM (National Association of Software and Service Companies) the Indian IT-ITES/BPO (including hardware) sector's revenue aggregate is estimated to grow by over 33 per cent in 2007-08.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) As per the N ASSCOM, the export of IT and ITES sector for the last 3 years was as follows:

Year	Exports (in US $ Billion)
2004-05	17.7
2005-06	23.6
2006-07	31.3

The export is estimated to grow at annual rate of 24-25 per cent.

(d) No, Sir. As per (Electronics and Computer Software Export Promotion Council (ESC) there is no immediate challenge to Indian IT Industry from China or other competing countries.

(e) Does not arise.